

Application No. 09/884,591
Response to Office Action

Customer No. 01933

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An image forming system, comprising:

~~(1)~~ (i) an image forming apparatus to form an image on a recording material, ~~and~~ said image forming apparatus comprising:

~~(1-1)~~ a first memory section to store a program to
5 conduct a predetermined operation; [[,]]

an image forming section which forms the image on the recording material based on image data;

a control section which controls the image forming section to form the image based on the program stored in the
10 first memory section;

an ID memory section which stores a serial number of the image forming apparatus and program information about the program stored in the first memory section; and

~~(1-2)~~ an image forming apparatus connecting section to
15 connect the image forming apparatus with a network; and

~~(2)~~ (ii) an administrating apparatus to administrate the image forming apparatus through the network, ~~and~~ said administrating apparatus comprising:

~~(2-1)~~ an administrating memory section to store a
20 rewrite program for the image forming apparatus; [[,]]

an ID memory section which stores at least one serial number corresponding to at least one said image forming apparatus

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to be administrated and rewrite program information about the
rewrite program stored in the administrating memory section; and

25 ~~(2-2)~~ an administrating apparatus connecting section to
connect the administrating apparatus with the network;

 wherein the image forming apparatus: accesses (a)
communicates with the administrating apparatus through the
network, (b) obtains the rewrite program stored in the
30 administrating memory section, and (c) rewrites the program
stored in the first memory section with the obtained rewrite
program when the serial number stored in the ID memory section of
the image forming apparatus corresponds to one said at least one
serial number stored in the ID memory section of the
35 administrating apparatus, and when the rewrite program is
determined to be newer than the program stored in the first
memory section based on the rewrite program information stored in
the administrating apparatus and the program information stored
in the ID memory section.

2. (Currently Amended) The image forming system of claim 1,
wherein the network ~~is a~~ comprises an internet.

3. (Currently Amended) The image forming system of claim 1,
wherein ~~after judging~~ the image forming apparatus determines

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whether the program stored in the first memory section should be
rewritten by the rewrite program stored in the administrating
5 memory section ~~is a rewrite program for rewriting the program~~
~~stored in the first memory section, either before or after the~~
image forming apparatus obtains the rewrite program, ~~or after~~
~~obtaining the rewrite program from the administrating memory~~
~~section, the image forming apparatus judges whether the obtained~~
10 ~~rewrite program is a rewrite program for rewriting the program~~
~~stored in the first memory section and then rewrites the program~~
~~stored in the first memory section.~~

4. (Currently Amended) The image forming system of claim 3,
wherein the image forming apparatus determines whether the
program and stored in the first memory section should be
rewritten by the rewrite program ~~are correlated respectively with~~
5 ~~stored in the administrating memory section based on at least~~
least one of producing date information, storing date
information, version information, and history information, ~~and~~
type information of the image forming apparatus and whether the
rewrite program is a rewrite program for rewriting the program
10 ~~stored in the first memory is judged based on the correlated~~
~~information.~~

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5. (Currently Amended) The image forming ~~systems~~ system of claim 1, wherein the administering memory section stores a plurality of rewrite programs.

6. (Original) The image forming system of claim 1, wherein the image forming apparatus downloads the rewrite program in accordance with a download instruction transmitted from the administering apparatus.

7. (Currently Amended) The image forming system of claim 6, wherein the download instruction is transmitted through another network different from the network ~~to transmit~~ through which the rewrite program is obtained.

8. (Currently Amended) The image forming system of claim 7, wherein the network ~~to transmit~~ through which the rewrite program is obtained comprises an internet, and the network ~~to transmit~~ through which the download instruction is transmitted is a telephone line.

9. (Currently Amended) The image forming system of claim 1, wherein the image forming apparatus is provided in a local user network ~~on which~~ that includes a sub-host section ~~having~~ which

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comprises a second memory section to store the rewrite program is
5 provided; [[,]] and

wherein the image forming apparatus obtains the rewrite
program through the sub-host section ~~and rewrites the program~~
~~stored in the first memory.~~

10. (Currently Amended) The image forming system of
claim 9, wherein the sub-host section judges whether the program
stored in the first memory section should be rewritten by
the rewrite program stored in the administrating memory section,
5 ~~is a rewrite program for rewriting the program stored in the~~
~~first memory section~~ and obtains the rewrite program based on the
judgment.

11. (Currently Amended) The image forming system of
claim 9, wherein ~~after judging~~ the image forming apparatus
determines whether the program stored in the first memory section
should be rewritten by the rewrite program stored in the second
5 memory section ~~is a rewrite program for rewriting the program~~
~~stored in the first memory section,~~ either before or after the
image forming apparatus obtains the rewrite program, ~~, or after~~
~~obtaining the rewrite program from the second memory section,~~ the
image forming apparatus judges whether the obtained rewrite
10 ~~program is a rewrite program for rewriting the program stored in~~

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~~the first memory section and then rewrites the program stored in
the first memory section.~~

12. (Currently Amended) The image forming system of
claim 9, wherein the image forming apparatus determines whether
the program ~~and stored in the first memory section should be~~
rewritten by the rewrite program ~~are correlated respectively with~~
5 stored in the administrating memory section based on at least
least one of producing date information, storing date
information, version information, and history information, ~~and~~
~~type information of the image forming apparatus and whether the~~
~~rewrite program is a rewrite program for rewriting the program~~
10 ~~stored in the first memory is judged based on the correlated~~
~~information.~~

13. (Currently Amended) The image forming system of
claim 9, wherein the sub-host section obtains a rewrite program
for a plurality of image forming ~~apparatus~~ apparatuses connected
to the local user network from the administrating section and
5 administers rewriting a program of the plurality of image
forming ~~apparatus~~ apparatuses.

14. (Currently Amended) The image forming system of
claim 9, wherein the image forming apparatus obtains the rewrite

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program stored in the second memory in accordance with a download instruction transmitted from the sub-host section ~~and rewrites the program stored in the first memory with the rewrite memory.~~

15. (Original) The image forming system of claim 9, wherein the sub-host section accesses the administrating apparatus in accordance with a download instruction transmitted from the administrating apparatus.

16. (Currently Amended) The image forming system of claim 1, wherein the image forming apparatus is prohibited to rewrite the program stored in the first memory ~~during an~~ while forming the image formation on the recording material.

17. (Currently Amended) The image forming system of claim 16, wherein the image forming apparatus is prohibited to obtain the rewrite program ~~during an~~ while forming the image formation on the recording material.

18. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus to form an image on a recording material, comprising:

a first memory section to store a program to conduct a predetermined operation; [[,]]

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an image forming section which forms the image on the recording material based on image data;

a control section which controls the image forming section to form the image based on the program stored in the first memory section;

an ID memory section which stores a serial number of the image forming apparatus and program information about the program stored in the first memory section; and

a first connecting section to connect the image forming apparatus with the a network;

wherein the image forming apparatus: ~~accesses~~
(a) communicates through a the network with an administrating apparatus which is provided on the network and storing which stores a rewrite program for the image forming apparatus, (b) obtains the rewrite program, and (c) rewrites the program stored in the first memory section with the obtained rewrite program when the serial number stored in the ID memory section of the image forming apparatus corresponds to a serial number stored in the administrating apparatus, and when the rewrite program is determined to be newer than the program stored in the first memory section based on rewrite program information stored in the administrating apparatus and the program information stored in the ID memory section.

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19. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 18, wherein the network ~~is a~~ comprises an internet.

20. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 18, wherein ~~after judging the image forming apparatus determines whether the program stored in the first memory section should be rewritten by the rewrite program stored in the~~
5 ~~administrating memory section is a rewrite program for rewriting the program stored in the first memory section, either before or after the image forming apparatus obtains the rewrite program, or after obtaining the rewrite program from the administrating memory section, the image forming apparatus judges whether the~~
10 ~~obtained rewrite program is a rewrite program for rewriting the program stored in the first memory section and then rewrites the program stored in the first memory section.~~

21. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 18, wherein the network ~~to transmit~~ through which the rewrite program is obtained comprises an internet; ~~and~~

wherein the image forming apparatus further comprises a
5 second communicating device to connect with a telephone line; ~~and~~
~~wherein the image forming apparatus conduct obtaining~~
obtains the rewrite program in accordance with a download

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instruction transmitted from the administrating apparatus through the telephone line.

22. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 18, wherein the image forming apparatus is prohibited to rewrite the program stored in the first memory ~~during an~~ while forming the image formation on the recording material.

23. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 22, wherein the image forming apparatus is prohibited to obtain the rewrite program ~~during an~~ while forming the image formation on the recording material.

Claims 24-40 (Canceled).